

Enriching Lives



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October 20, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**JOHN ANSON FORD AMPHITHEATRE - PROPOSED SCHEDULE
"FORD AMPHITHEATRE – 2016 SEASON"
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

FORD AMPHITHEATRE – 2016 SEASON

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Approve the proposed roster for the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre's 2016 season.
2. Authorize the Executive Director to make the necessary expenditures within the approved FY 2015-2016 budget to implement the program.

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

10 October 20, 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Ogawa".
PATRICK OGAWA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

This is the annual implementation of the Summer Partnership Program, a summer performing arts series in the historic Ford Amphitheatre, which brings people together through the arts for transformative moments that ignite and inspire empowerment and cultural exchange. The 2016 Summer Partnership Program, running from July through mid-October, supports Los Angeles County resident arts organizations by assisting them to successfully present performances in the Ford's 1,180-seat amphitheatre, thereby strengthening the region's artistic infrastructure. The Arts Commission provides presentation support and skill building and peer-to-peer learning opportunities to participating arts organizations which, in turn, provide the residents of Los Angeles County with a rich cultural sampling of performing arts of the region.

This summer, the season will open approximately 30 days later than in previous years to accommodate the schedule of capital improvements that pre-empted the 2015 amphitheatre season. Improvements include reconstruction of the Ford's stage, installation of a comprehensive drainage system for the amphitheatre, renovation of backstage artist dressing and green rooms, stabilization of the hillside and improvements to the hard and planted landscape to mitigate erosion, a new picnic terrace and sound wall and a redesign of theatrical lighting and sound systems.

The roster proposed for the 2016 Summer Partnership Program season (Attachment A) includes 33 arts organizations producing 37 events. The proposed roster brings 13 new arts organizations to the Ford season. It is anticipated that the Ford Theatre Foundation, which provides additional support for programming, will provide resources for approximately six additional performances for young audiences and a free series of participatory arts events. The Ford Theatre Foundation will also produce two concerts as part of the Signature Series, a series made possible through the support of the Third District, which benefits the endowment of the Ford Theatre Foundation. The series pairs nationally recognized performers with local treasures to raise the visibility of the Ford Theatres and highlight the talent of Los Angeles County-based artists.

The Arts Commission began programming the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre in 1993. To schedule the 2016 Ford summer season, Arts Commission staff sent requests for proposals to more than 700 Los Angeles County arts organizations; 52 applications were received and reviewed. Selections were based on artistic merit, producing experience, fiscal stability, suitability of proposed project to the venue and diversity in programming. On October 5, 2015, the Arts Commissioners reviewed and unanimously approved the artists on the attached proposed roster.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The proposed recommended action furthers the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Integrated Services Delivery (Goal 3), as the proposed 2016 series will provide the public with affordable access to quality arts programs through public private partnerships with the Los Angeles arts community.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Funds have been allocated for this purpose as part of the Arts Commission's Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget. Additional revenue will be realized from rental of the facility, concessions sales and donations received by the Ford Theatre Foundation. The Ford Theatre Foundation has raised \$964,000 to date in 2015 and is supported by many individual and institutional funders including the

following private funders: The James Irvine Foundation, Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, Wells Fargo Foundation, Sony USA, Macy's West, ECF Boeing, NBC Universal, Southern California Edison and Union Bank.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Not applicable.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The proposed schedule encourages participation, artistic innovation and cross-cultural collaboration, and is consistent with previous Ford Amphitheatre seasons, reflecting the artistic merit, cultural diversity and geographic range of Los Angeles County.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Zucker", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

LAURA ZUCKER

Executive Director

LZ:AD

Enclosures

c: County Counsel
Parks and Recreation

FORD AMPHITHEATRE
PROPOSED 2016 SUMMER PARTNERSHIP SEASON

*indicates organizations new to Partnership Program

52Blend*

AFRO LATINO

An evening of musical and spoken word performances that highlight the historical journey of African musical traditions traveling to South and Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean.

Andrea Rodriguez*

LA Cumbia Festival, #MasTropical and Beyond!

An evening that pays homage to the past, present and future of Los Angeles' cumbia community with collaborative performances by local cumbia pioneers and newcomers.

Angel City Arts

Angel City Jazz Festival

A jazz festival featuring innovative and cutting edge jazz musicians who work with a fusion of electronic, rock and hip hop styles of music.

Artist Entertainment*

Artista & Activista... ARTIVISTA!

An immersive showcase of female soloists from all around the Americas who highlight issues of social justice in their music.

Bluegrass Association of Southern California

Bluegrass at the Ford

A presentation of traditional and contemporary Bluegrass music.

Cary Sullivan*

Afro Funke' LIVE at the John Anson Ford Theatre

An evening of live bands, DJ sets, dancers and art installations dedicated to African music, culture and art and its far reaching influence around the world.

Chester Whitmore*

Lord of the Swing

A 40s and 50s style big band variety showcase including guest singers, choreographed dance numbers and live music with new arrangements of big band classics.

Chris Isaacson Presents, LLC.

Broadway Under the Stars

An evening with Tony Award-winning artists sharing treasured memories and songs from popular Broadway shows.

Colibri Entertainment

¡Viva La Tradición! Las Mujeres Pioneras del Mariachi

A showcase of premier all-female mariachi ensembles that will each pay tribute to influential and inspirational figures in the genre.

FORD AMPHITHEATRE
PROPOSED 2016 SUMMER PARTNERSHIP SEASON

Eastside Luv

English As A Second Language Vol. 2

A concert featuring Mariachi Rock-O, a mariachi group from Mexico that covers American, European and Mexican rock and pop music hits in English and Spanish.

Element Band

Element Band Live

An evening with Element Band performing modern arrangements of Armenian folk music.

Flypoet Entertainment

6th Annual Flypoet Under The Stars: Summer Classic

An evening of spoken word, music, comedy and live visual art.

Fountain Theatre

Forever Flamenco at the Ford

A celebration of flamenco music and dance featuring local and international artists.

Grandeza Mexicana Folk Ballet Company

Paseo Por Zacatecas

An evening of folkloric dance with live music, depicting traditional Mexican celebrations from indigenous cultures and regions of Mexico.

Impro Theatre*

L.A. Noir UnScripted

A completely improvised full-length play performed in the style of noir authors such as Raymond Chandler and James M. Cain.

Invertigo Dance Theatre*

After it Happened

A contemporary dance performance that blends dance, theatre and live music to tell the story of a community in the aftermath of a natural disaster.

Jail Guitar Doors

ROCK OUT! for Jail Guitar Doors w/Wayne Kramer & Friends

A concert to benefit Jail Guitar Doors featuring rock musicians performing acoustic and electric sets.

Libros Schmibros*

Zoot Suit 35th Anniversary Screening

A film screening of *Zoot Suit*, with a panel discussion featuring scholars and members of the film's creative team.

Los Angeles Jewish Symphony

Let's Play LA!

A symphonic concert featuring the music of LA-based composers and the concert works of world renowned video game composer, Garry Schyman.

FORD AMPHITHEATRE
PROPOSED 2016 SUMMER PARTNERSHIP SEASON

m.a.m.a. earth*

Common Culture

An upbeat evening of music and dance featuring LA artists with roots in different parts of the globe including West Africa, Brazil and the Pacific Islands.

Music Arts Events

The Fil-Am Collective Music Show

An evening of traditional Pilipino and pop music featuring premiere Filipino American vocal ensembles.

Music Circle*

Music Meets Bells

Presenting North and South Indian musical traditions performed by renowned musicians, vocalists and dancers.

Musicians at Play*

LOST: A Musical Celebration

Oscar-winning composer Michael Giacchino will conduct an orchestra of 44 Los Angeles based world-class musicians, presenting the music and story of the iconic TV series, *Lost*.

Outfest

Under the Stars

Five film screenings that are a part of Outfest 2016: The 34th Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.

Overtone Industries*

The ICELAND Concert

A live concert presentation of an original contemporary opera influenced by Icelandic folk traditions and harmonies.

Pacific Opera Project*

Abduction from the Seraglio

A reimagining of the classic Mozart opera updated with a new English book and libretto, and set in the world of Star Trek.

PAE Live!

Martin Nievera: Unplugged

An acoustic evening with the "Concert King of the Philippines," actor and singer Martin Nievera, performing a new repertoire of pop, soft rock and original Pilipino music.

Shakti Dance Company/Aditya Prakash Ensemble

MARA

A reworking of the 2013 production of an Indian dance theater piece performed to a fusion of Indian classical music and jazz, with new multimedia, choreography and music.

FORD AMPHITHEATRE
PROPOSED 2016 SUMMER PARTNERSHIP SEASON

Star Entertainment

Fiesta Mexicana XIII: Inolvidable (Unforgettable)

The twelfth annual variety show featuring the rich diversity of folkloric music and dance from Mexico.

TAIKOPROJECT

Quetzal & TAIKOPROJECT in Concert

A creative collaboration with Grammy Award winning Chicano rock band Quetzal, blending live taiko drumming and son jarocho music.

World Stage Performance Gallery

Jazz Masters: Honoring the Legacy of Charles Lloyd

An evening of jazz featuring a variety of emerging and established jazz musicians and a performance by the Charles Lloyd Quartet.

Vaud and the Villains

Vaud and the Villains - Live at the Ford

A concert featuring Vaud and the Villains, a 19-piece New Orleans orchestra and cabaret.

Versa-Style Dance Company

A Beautiful Struggle

A hip-hop dance theatre production that celebrates the roots and contemporary performance of LA street dance culture.